

leading to industry-recognized credentials for secondary, postsecondary, and adult learners;

Whereas CTE affords students the opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills, and credentials needed to secure careers in growing, high-demand fields;

Whereas CTE students were significantly more likely than non-CTE students to report having developed problem-solving, project completion, research, math, college application, work-related, communication, time management, and critical thinking skills during high school;

Whereas students at schools with highly integrated rigorous academic and CTE programs have significantly higher achievement in reading, mathematics, and science than students at schools with less integrated programs; and

Whereas February 23, 2017, marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Act of February 23, 1917 (commonly known as the “Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act of 1917”) (39 Stat. 929, chapter 114), which was the first major Federal investment in secondary CTE and laid the foundation for the bipartisan, bicameral support for CTE that continues as of February 2017: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 2017 as “Career and Technical Education Month” to celebrate career and technical education across the United States;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Career and Technical Education month;

(3) honors the 100th anniversary of the Act of February 23, 1917 (commonly known as the “Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act of 1917”) (39 Stat. 929, chapter 114);

(4) recognizes the importance of career and technical education in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce in the United States; and

(5) encourages educators, counselors, and administrators to promote career and technical education as an option for students.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, our Nation’s continued economic competitiveness relies on the education and skills of the American workforce and its ability to meet and adapt to the 21st-century economy. Career and technical education, CTE, programs are a critical component to every student’s education, creating diverse pathways into further education and developing careers. Today, approximately 11.5 million students are enrolled in CTE, encompassing every State through nearly 1,700 two-year and thousands more secondary CTE centers, comprehensive high schools career academies and CTE high schools.

According to the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Career, Technical and Adult Education, in 2012, the average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs was 93 percent, compared with the national average of 80 percent. These students gain real-world skills through applied learning, and integrate their academic curriculum with technical and employability skills. In addition, our Nation’s continued economic competitiveness relies on the skill of the American workforce and its ability to meet and adapt to the 21st-century economy.

CTE prepares students with education and training leading to indus-

try-recognized credentials, including certifications, licenses, certificates and degrees, in a wide variety of fields. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, of the top three fastest-growing occupations, all will require real-world skills that can be mastered through CTE—none require a bachelor’s degree and all have median salaries above \$50,000 per year. By increasing opportunities for students to obtain postsecondary skills training and meaningful credentials, CTE can spread economic opportunity to all students who are willing to work for it.

Today with my Senate CTE Caucus cochairs Senator PORTMAN, Senator BALDWIN, and Senator YOUNG and other colleagues in the Senate, I am introducing a bipartisan resolution to designate February as Career and Technical Education, CTE, Month. CTE Month provides a chance for students, counselors, educators and administrators to learn more about the educational opportunities available in their communities and recognize the importance of CTE in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce in the United States. This year’s resolution also marks the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act of 1917, the Nation’s first major federal investment in secondary CTE.

By formally recognizing CTE Month through this resolution, it is our hope that we can build greater awareness for the importance of strengthening access to high-quality CTE for millions of America’s students and our nation’s continued economic competitiveness.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 67—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS COACHES AND FOR THE DESIGNATION OF FEBRUARY 13, 2017, THROUGH FEBRUARY 19, 2017, AS “NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS COACH RECOGNITION WEEK”

Mr. HEINRICH submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 67

Whereas February 13, 2017, through February 19, 2017, is recognized as “National Health and Wellness Coach Recognition Week”;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers chronic diseases to be “the public health challenge of the 21st century”;

Whereas decades of research have linked lifestyle factors, such as inactivity, poor diet, tobacco smoking, and sustained stress, with increased risk for major illnesses and death;

Whereas the costs associated with treating many chronic diseases are high and often preventable;

Whereas a health and wellness coach is a new type of healthcare worker who serves as a supportive mentor to motivate individuals to make positive health choices and move toward specific wellness goals;

Whereas health and wellness coaches support clients in achieving good health—

(1) based on the goals of each client; and

(2) in a manner consistent with the treatment plan recommended by a healthcare provider for the client;

Whereas health and wellness coaches assist clients in making healthy lifestyle changes by encouraging them—

(1) to use insight;

(2) to use personal strengths and resources;

(3) to set goals;

(4) to create action steps; and

(5) to hold themselves accountable;

Whereas health and wellness coaches play a vital role in improving individual wellness that complements, and does not replace, the work of healthcare professionals; and

Whereas an increasing number of studies demonstrate the effectiveness of health and wellness coaches in—

(1) improving individual health and wellness; and

(2) reducing healthcare costs: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of February 13, 2017, through February 19, 2017, as “National Health and Wellness Coach Recognition Week”; and

(2) supports the efforts of the health and wellness coaches of the United States in their important work to improve the health and wellness of the people of United States.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 191. Mr. CORNYN (for Ms. MURKOWSKI) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 55, recognizing February 26, 2017, as the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 191. Mr. CORNYN (for Ms. MURKOWSKI) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 55, recognizing February 26, 2017, as the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska; as follows:

Amend the sixteenth whereas clause to read as follows:

Whereas Denali National Park and Preserve has provided a wide array of visitor experiences to tourists, including hiking, dog mushing, rafting, and cycling;

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have one request for a committee to meet during today’s session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, February 17, 2017, at 12:30 p.m., in room S-216.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following